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DE RUESLZ #6233 2062058
O 242035Z JUL 80
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3332

INFO BOLIVIAN SITREP COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
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ROME FOR VATICAN
E.O. 12065: GDS 7/24/86 (FOUCHE, ROBERT M.) OR-P
TAGS: PINS, PINT, BL
SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 28, 1200 HOURS LOCA, JULY 24

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT)

2. ~~POLICE SOURCE PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING:~~

~~-ADVISORY TEAM OF SIXTEEN MEMBERS FROM ARGENTINA ARRIVED FROM SANTA CRUZ WITHIN THE LAST TWO DAYS. AMONG THE ADVISORS ARE THOSE IN CHARGE OF THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT OPERATIONS:~~

~~LOGISTICS, MILITARY ARMAMENTS, MILITARY MAINTENANCE, PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS, RADIO COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHERS.~~

~~-NEW SHIPMENTS OF TEAR GAS AND MUNITIONS HAVE ARRIVED.~~

~~CHILEAN ARMY GENERAL OJBRIEN ARRIVED BY TRAIN JULY 21~~

~~ACCORDING TO SOURCE AND SPOKE WITH GARCIA MEZA. IT APPEARS CHILE WILL DO NOTHING FOR THE MOMENT, HAVING MADE IT CLEAR THAT NO RECOGNITION WOULD BE FORTHCOMING BEFORE REESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. (COMMENT: WE HAVE HAD A NUMBER OF REPORTS OF CHILEAN INVOLVEMENT, INCLUDING DIRECT TALKS BY PINOCHET AND GARCIA MEZA IN WHICH PINOCHET PROMISED TACIT SUPPORT. OBVIOUSLY, CHILE, LIKE HER OTHER SOUTHERN CONE PARTNERS, WOULD PROBABLY FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE WITH GARCIA MEZA THAN SILES ZUAZO, BUT WHAT WE HAVE IN TERMS OF ACTUAL CONTACT BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS REMAINS SPECULATIVE. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED~~

***** W H S R C O M M E N T *****

PUBS SIO
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IF EMBASSY SANTIAGO CAN CONFIRM GEN O'BRIEN'S VISIT.)

3. THE PARAMILITARY UNITS CONTINUE THEIR HARASSMENT AS WELL AS DOWNRIGHT LARCENOUS OPERATIONS. ACCORDING TO A GOOD SOURCE, THEY BROKE INTO THE OFFICE OF A LOCAL UDP CANDIDATE LAWYER, RANSACKED IT, AND STOLE MUCH OF HIS FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT. LATER, SUSPECTING A SNIPER IN THE SAME BUILDING, THEY CONDUCTED A SYSTEMATIC SEARCH OF THE APARTMENTS. THOSE APARTMENTS WITHOUT OCCUPANTS THEY BROKE INTO AND ROBBED.

4. POLICE SOURCE CONFIRMS THAT A NUMBER OF SOLDIERS WERE POISONED OVER THE WEEKEND, BUT NOT IN THE NUMBERS WE REPORTED. THUS FAR, FIVE SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN KILLED IN LA PAZ, THE LATEST BY A SNIPER BULLET TWO DAYS AGO. SAME SOURCE STATES THAT IN HUANUNI, MINERS SUFFERED SEVEN DEAD AND TWENTY WOUNDED. ARMY LOSSES WERE FOUR KILLED. WE BELIEVE FOREGOING FIGURES ARE PROBABLY CONSERVATIVE, BUT ALL REPORTS IN ANY CASE FROM EITHER MINERS OR OF THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT ARE PROBABLY DISTORTED.

5. A NEWSWEEK CORRESPONDENT OF FRENCH NATIONALITY, AND A DUTCH NEWSPAPERMAN WERE SUMMARILY DEPORTED FROM SANTA CRUZ WEDNESDAY, JULY 23.

WATSON
BT

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